

CHRISTMAS IS CELEBRATED AT BRIDGEPORT

With Programs by Choirs and Sunday Schools of Four Churches There.

BRIDGEPORT, Dec. 26.—A large and appreciative audience listened to the musical cantata, "The King of the World," given by the choir and Sunday school of the Bridgeport Baptist church Christmas Eve.

The church was artistically decorated in festooning, bells and wreaths in the season's colors and greenery. A large archway of greenery extending to the ceiling added much to the effect and above the gray wall of Bethlehem, the simulation of blue sky studded with numinous stars, the Star of the East being given prominence, was a scene of great beauty.

Beautiful numbers were "The Redeemer Shall Come," "The King of the Whole World," "God of Our Fathers," by nine girls, "Home Rules the World," "Hark, from Heaven's Portals," "Hail This Day of Joy and Gladness," "Joy Bells are Chiming," the "Indian Chorus," by ten children, "Marching Onward to the King of Glory," "He Was Rejected," "Let the Wicked Forsake His Way," "Praise His Holy Name," "All the Little Ones for Jesus," by the infant class, "He Came to Us All," "A King Shall Reign," and "King of the World."

An attractive scene was that of the Bethlehem girls who came from within the opening gates bringing their glad messages in song. Later they were encountered by the Roman soldiers who went on to Bethlehem and returned with Eurasus singing their song of insolence, "Home Rules the World."

Especially pretty was a pantomime, "A Little Town of Bethlehem," by twelve little girls in white robes. Touchingly beautiful was the scene in which the angel appeared bringing the glad tidings of the Saviour's birth. The gates were slowly opened and within the portals appeared the manger, shepherd's kneeling by the side with a guardian angel holding a golden harp and Mary standing. The tableaux effect added to the solemnity of the picture as Mrs. Floyd sang "Slumbering Lies the World's Redeemer." Pilgrims of all nations came to worship at the summons of the Rabbi. Another scene of deep spiritual significance was that of the Wise Men in their discovery of the Star of the East which was made to shine with great brightness by the electric lights provided for the purpose.

All characters wore appropriate costumes. The entire program was given under the direction of the pastor, the Rev. Robert Bragg, with Mrs. W. W. Willis as pianist. A number of selections were rendered by the orchestra as a prelude to the evening's entertainment.

Following the conclusion of the cantata an attractively trimmed and heavily laden Christmas tree was revealed and Santa Claus made his usual visit.

Another Baptist Program. "Silfah," the musical cantata given by the choir and Sunday school of the Simpson Creek Baptist church Christmas Eve was one of the best prepared and most enjoyable entertainments of its kind ever given here. It proved a musical treat to the large audience. The numbers were of unusual brilliancy and the entire cantata was pervaded by a deep religious sentiment. Special numbers were well rendered by Mrs. T. B. White, Miss Ingrid Stout, Mrs. Roy Peshak and Mrs. Lee Stout, and Willis Dean.

The entire program was given under the direction of Miss Isadore Stout, the choir director, with Mrs. Watson Johnson as pianist, and the manner in which it was rendered reflects much credit upon not only the participants, but upon those directing the work. Miss Stout has been director of the choir for sometime, but this is the first cantata it has given. The church was appropriately decorated in the season's colors and Santa Claus did not fail to arrive to distribute the presents from the beautiful tree prepared for him.

Methodist Entertainment. The following program was rendered Christmas night by the choir and Sunday school of the Methodist Episcopal church:

Song—"The Advent" Choir.
Devotional exercises—The Rev. B. S. Hamrick.
Song—"Welcome to Christmas"—choir.
"Why He Came"—Edwin Bartlett, Clarence Francis, Paul Gawthrop.

SPECIAL SALE

- STAPLE GROCERIES
Heinz 15c Baked Beans 2 cans 25c
Heinz 10c Baked Beans 3 cans 25c
Heinz 15c Spaghetti 2 cans 25c
Heinz 10c Spaghetti 3 cans 25c
Heinz 15c Olives 2 Bottles 25c
Heinz 25c Catsup 1 Bottle 20c
Heinz 15c Catsup 2 Bottles 25c
Heinz 35c Apple Butter 1 Jar 25c
California Table Peaches 2 cans 25c
Search Light Matches 40c Doz. Boxes

CHAS. H. PIKE
115 West Pike St.

Rider in the Postoffice Bill is Attacked by Ralph Peters

Paul Graves, Earle Gawthrop, Fred die Silcott, Horner Jones and Raymond Moore.

Song—"The Beautiful Story"—Pauline Stout.
"The Three Gifts"—Emile Duff, Vera Golden and Virginia Duff.
Song—"So Do I, Don't You?"—Lora Golden, Conice Combs, Georgia Wienold, Dorcie Hamrick, Nedra Bartlett and Kenneth Moore.

"Christmas is Here"—Junior Jones, Thayer Combs, Darwin Golden, Jennings Nicholson, Mildred Orme, Evelyn Cole, Franklin Bartlett, Carl Hamrick, Lyle Jones and Emily North.
Vocal solo—"No Room"—Miss Dora Stout.

"Christmas Music"—Samuel Jones, William Moore, Kenneth Moore and Edwin Bartlett.

Song—"The Incarnation"—Choir.
Song—"Shining Out So Bright"—Lora Golden, Dorcie Hamrick and Hazel Langford.

"The Christmas Snowflakes"—Evelyn Cole, Lora Golden, Conice Combs, Nedra Bartlett, Vera Golden, Hazel Langford, Dorcie Hamrick and Georgia Wienold.

Vocal duet—Mrs. Roy Peshak and Mrs. A. P. Saurbrey.

Song—"He Comes"—Choir.

Following the program Santa Claus made his annual visit, creating much merriment by bringing his wife and children. After an interesting talk he distributed the presents from the attractive tree. Among the many gifts was a Masonic fob presented to the choir director, Roy Peshak, by members of the choir.

Mrs. Roy Peshak and Miss Dora Stout were the pianists.

Another Methodist Program. No less interesting or well decorated was the program given by the Methodist Protestant Sunday school which has been previously published. The decorations were attractive and Santa Claus just as generously remembered his people. The Christmas tree was just as attractive and heavily laden.

MANY HORSES LIVE WITHOUT DRINKING WATER

Grass Known as Maninia Quenches Thirst and Also Satisfies Hunger.

The proverbial horse which can be led to water but which cannot be made to drink exists in large numbers in the Hawaiian Islands. Among the cattle he has thousands of cousins of the same proclivities.

Never Drink Water. It is a surprising statement to make, yet one that is literally true and so commonplace that no one there thinks anything about it, and there are hundreds of horses and thousands of cattle which never take a drink of water throughout the entire course of their lives.

On all the islands the upper altitudes of the mountains are given up to cattle ranges. The cattle run wild from the time they are born until they are rounded up to be sent to the slaughter house. Except during possibly two or three months of the rainy season there are no streams or pools of water in any part where the cattle range.

But everywhere there grows a recumbent, jointed grass, known by the native name of Maninia. This is both food and drink, says a recent traveler. Horses and cattle grazing on it neither require water nor will they drink it when offered.

First Experience. Our first experience with this fact was on a trip to Heleakala. A party were mounted on horses which had just been brought in from the range. The journey they made was fourteen miles, in which distance they ascended 9000 feet. The party started in the afternoon, and at sunset halted for supper. They thought it strange that the horses should leave a feed of grain to nibble the scanty grass which grew nearby, but were willing to trust their instinct in the matter.

However, before starting, they insisted that they be given water. The native guide demurred, saying that they didn't need it, but with the good-natured compliance of his race, yielded to requests, and led a detour of about a mile, which brought the party to a ranch house where there was a well. But to the utter amazement of the travelers the horses would not drink.

They took it as another case of instinct and assumed that the water, for some reason, was not good and so refrained themselves from drinking it. It was not until the return the second day to Kawaapae that the travelers learned the secret of the wonderful maninia grass.

FUR TRADE

In Australia on Verge of Collapse on Account of the War

(Correspondence of Associated Press). SYDNEY, Dec. 26.—The Australia fur trade, which is on the verge of collapse because of the failure of the London markets, has sent to London a request that the English government equip at least a part of the army with winter coats made of walley skins, of which there are large quantities available in storehouses in London. The skins can be obtained as cheaply as sheepskins—which are now being used for soldiers' coats—and moreover the walley skin is very warm and pliable.

An Oregon farmer has discovered that he can raise larger onions on rich soil by tying threads around each plant to check the flow of sap to the tops.

Committee Chairman Says the Measure Aims to Reduce Railway Mail Pay.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Mr. Ralph Peters, chairman of the committee on railway mail pay representing 284 leading railroads, operating nearly 90 per cent of the total railroad mileage of the United States today issued the following statement:

"The House of Representatives has passed a special bill declaring in order the railway mail pay rider in the post office appropriation bill."

"The ostensible purpose of that rider is to establish a plan of payment for the railway mail service which shall be more scientific than the system now in effect."

Carry Parcel Post

"Its true purpose, however, as revealed in debate before the House of Representatives by Chairman Moon, of the post office committee, is to reduce railway mail pay by many millions per year, and, in particular, to force the railroads to carry all the parcel post, in Chairman Moon's own words, 'without any addition compensation.'"

"Chairman Moon openly advanced this proposal despite the injustice manifest on its face, and in direct disregard of the finding submitted to Congress last summer, after nearly two years of careful investigation and study by the joint Congressional committee on railway mail pay, under the chairmanship of former Senator Bourne."

"The finding of the Bourne committee was that the railroads were as a matter of right and justice, entitled to an advance of at least \$3,000,000 per year for carrying the mails, with relief from certain incidental services now rendered without payment and representing several millions more annually."

Real Object of Bill

"Chairman Moon's committee, it is true, recommended to the House an increase of more than \$2,000,000 in next year's appropriation for railway mail pay and embodied this recommendation in the post office appropriation bill. But that the apparent promise of the bill and its real object are vastly different things, was made clear when Chairman Moon, on December 19, said before the House: 'It does not show a saving upon its face, and cannot do so, but only shows an administrative proposition of saving. The saving will occur, as the department thinks, in the handling of the mails.'"

"In other words, you have changed from the quadrilateral weighing of the mails on a weight basis, on which the pay is to be computed, to the space provision, and you will have enough space under the contract to carry all your parcel post probably without any additional compensation and save many millions annually. That is their theory."

"Again Chairman Moon said, more specifically: 'Does not the gentleman know that the main feature of this bill, the only great feature in it, is the railroad proposition, and does he not know that when he voted as he did he voted against the consideration of that railroad proposition that would save this country eight millions of dollars every year, if carried?'"

"So, the chairman of the House of Representatives committee, whose recommendation is an increase of \$3,000,000 in the appropriation to pay the railroads for carrying the mails, stated on the floor of the House that the bill would save the government \$8,000,000 annually."

"Chairman Moon quoted the president of the United States as supporting the rule to consider the mail pay rider of the post office appropriation bill."

"I said, and I say it now, and I do not propose to withdraw one single word of it from anybody, that, in my opinion, when the president of the United States and the postmaster general, when the Democratic committee on rules, when the Democratic committee on the post office and post roads, asks for a rule to consider legislation that would save to this country millions of dollars, the Democrats who turn his back upon that demand, violates the best interests of the Democratic party."

The President's Position

"What President Wilson did say on the question of governmental economy, in his message to Congress, was this:

"I assert with the greatest confidence that the people of the United States are not jealous of what their government costs if they are sure that they get what they need and desire for the outlay; that the money is being spent for objects of which they approve and that it is being applied with good business sense and management." *

"It is not expenditure but extravagance that we should fear being criticized for. The nation is not niggardly; it is very generous."

"And in his letter to Secretary McAdoo, on the occasion of the opening of the Federal Reserve banks, the president said:

"No doubt in the light of the new day, with its new understandings, the problems of the railroads will be met and dealt with in a spirit of candor and justice."

"The American people should not tolerate withholding from the railroads that fair and just pay for carrying the mails which an impartial and competent tribunal has declared to be their just due."

"The railway mail pay rider in the post office appropriation bill was not conceived in a spirit of candor and justice. It is a bald attempt to create a specious show of economy in the operations of one department of the government by depriving the railroad of a large part of the compensation they fully and fairly earn in the performance of an indispensable public service."

Doctors have decided that an electric shock kills a man by destroying the rhythm of the heart's beats and acting on the lungs like an overdose of anesthetic.

RAILROADS IN THIS SECTION NOT HELPED

But Very Little by Freight Rate Increase, Say B. & O. Officials at Grafton.

GRAFTON, Dec. 26.—It has developed that the railroads in this part of the state will not be as greatly benefited by the increase in freight rates as was at first anticipated. Local railway officials claim that the coal and coke shipments, on which no increase of freight is permitted, constitute some eighty per cent of the total amount of business handled on the roads in this section of West Virginia. Coal forms fifty-three per cent of all the shipments handled on the entire Baltimore and Ohio railroad system.

A formal reception Saturday marked the opening of the new Grafton post-office building, which has been completed at a total outlay of \$160,000. The building itself cost \$135,000 while the site for the building represents an additional outlay of \$25,000. Many persons visited the building. The post-office has been in process of construction for more than eighteen months.

The most sensational case that has developed in this section of the state in years is that of the death by other murder of Alonzo Piles, a wealthy farmer near Howesville, Preston county, who died Friday from bullet wounds received in, as yet, an unknown manner so far as the authorities are concerned.

His wife and brother, J. W. Piles, have been arrested and are being held in the Kingswood jail, awaiting a hearing on the charge of murdering him. The testimony of the accused persons is to the effect that Piles shot himself while under the influence of alcohol. His wife and brother had remonstrated with him, according to their story, and endeavored to take him home, but he refused to go. He drew a pistol then and attempted to shoot himself, but his brother made an effort to wrest the weapon away from him. In the struggle which followed, the defendants claim that Piles struck his brother over the head with the butt of the pistol, knocking him down, then turned the weapon on himself and fired a bullet through his breast. He expired in the road by the side of his wife a few minutes later. Unusual interest is taken in the case owing to the prominence of the persons who are involved.

James Male is held here on charges preferred by William Parsons, alleging robbery, entering a building, and attempting to shoot with intent to kill. Parsons alleges that Male entered his house and stole a sum of money three weeks ago. This week, Parsons claims a man entered his home, pistol in hand, and was attacked by Parsons, who was overpowered by the assailant, who escaped. Before leaving, however, Parsons claims that he tore a mask from the face of the intruder and both Parsons and his wife say they recognized the midnight prowler as Male. He was arrested on the streets of Grafton the next day and is being held for trial.

A prominent white churchman of Huntington is furnishing funds that will be used by the Rev. W. I. Withrow, a noted negro evangelist of Norfolk, Va., who is conducting a series of revival meetings here this month among the colored people, to conduct a series of inter-denominational evangelistic services among the negroes of America. It is claimed that this is the first time that an effort has been made to bring the colored race into the ranks of the Christians in any sort of campaign conducted on lines other than those of the particular denominations.

H. W. Blanning, a graduate of Bethlehem College, and pastor of the Christian church of this city, has been appointed principal of the grades in the Central school building, to succeed R. V. Boggs, resigned.

RECORD NUMBER OF CHOICE BIRDS

Will Be Shown at the Poultry Show in the City of Fairmont Next Month.

FAIRMONT, Dec. 26.—Because the state branch show of the American Poultry Association is to be held here in connection with the annual exhibition of the Fairmont Poultry and Pet Stock Association, January 11-15, a record number of birds will be sent here to compete for the prizes. Letters from breeders have been so numerous to date that Secretary Earl H. Smith is making preparations to coop and care for the largest number of fowls ever shown in the state.

The show will be held in the Fairmont armory which has a floor of sufficient dimensions to place every coop within easy view of the visitors. Exhibitors this winter and every effort made to make the show first class in every particular. For the show the association has purchased a number of uniform wire pens to be rented at a nominal price to those who will not ship show coops here. The catalogue and prize list which has just been issued show that the association is to be liberal with its prizes. Copies may be had by addressing the secretary.

Features of the Fairmont show will be the efforts of the association to encourage interest in the poultry industry among children. Agents of the organization have visited the schools of the county working up interest in a department for children exhibitors and receiving entries for the same. At the show children coming in bottles will be admitted free. Another innovation is the ticket selling contest which will result in a girl and a boy receiving a handsome gold watch for

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Special Offering

NEXT WEEK

IN OUR READY-TO-WEAR DEPARTMENT

Beginning Monday morning, we will offer our entire stock of Ladies' Suits and Dresses, Ladies' and Children's Coats and Furs, at a special discount of one-third off the price.

To those who are needing anything in these lines this means a wonderful saving, as each and every garment offered in this sale is new and of the latest model. We are simply closing these goods out because the policy of this store is a clean, new stock each season.

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"THE HOUSE OF QUALITY"

pointed principal of the grades in the Central school building, to succeed R. V. Boggs, resigned.

A blaze in the basement of the residence of S. K. White, on West Main street caused slight damage Monday morning at an early hour, but the fire was quickly extinguished.

D. M. Simonton, transfer clerk in the railway mail service at Grafton, expired at his home on East Main street Wednesday after an illness of a few months. He was prominently known in railroad circles.

The Baptist church has just installed a \$3,000 pipe organ as the result of a donation made by Andrew Carnegie, the steel king, and an additional sum raised by members of the congregation. Improvements to the extent of several thousand dollars have been made on the building and the capacity of the church has been considerably increased. The services to mark the dedication of the building will be held Sunday, January 3.

Bernard, seven-year-old son of George Lilly, was painfully cut in the back this week, while playing with some boy companions, one of whom was exhibiting a pen-knife. During a friendly scuffle, the boy was stabbed in the back and several stitches were required to close the wound, but the injury is not of a serious nature.

At the close of the service at the St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church on Sunday, the pastor, the Rev. A. F. Richardson, was presented with a purse containing \$100 in gold by his congregation as a token of appreciation for the splendid services that have been given by the Rev. Mr. Richardson during his pastorate. He has just completed sixteen years service in the local church and has been largely responsible for the splendid growth in the local congregation.

A large attendance of the employees of the Monongah division of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad discussed general working conditions at a mass meeting called for that purpose Tuesday evening by Superintendent J. M. Scott, of this division.

The Grafton basketball team opened the local season here this week Saturday with the bye from the Massanutten Academy at Woodstock, Va. Nell Holt, son of Judge John H. Holt, of Grafton, is captain of the team and played a strong game at forward for the visitors.

The best skating in years was enjoyed here Sunday, but a rise in the Tygart's Valley river swept the ice out early this week. The first frost stage was reported in the river far more than six months.

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selling the greatest number of admission tickets. Poultry experts from the government and elsewhere will attend the show and will lecture on each evening of the week.

Great Britain and Ireland consume 30,000,000 rabbits as food annually.

The CURRENT MAGAZINES

"America—On Guard!" in which Colonel Theodore Roosevelt discusses the preparedness of the United States for war, is the leading article in the January number of Everybody's. Interesting sidelights from the European war also are contained in this number. Among them are Frederick Palmer's story of his trip through Germany with the Teuton army, "My Day at the Front," by Henry Beach Needham, and "What You and I Owe to England, France, Russia and Germany," by William Hard. The number also abounds in good fiction, among the leading stories being "All for Patricia," by Eugene P. Lytle, "Paying Off the Swede," by Thomas McMorrow, "Peter Winchster, Star Maker," by Leon Rudledge Whipple, and "An Idea for a Comic," by Frank Leon Smith. Other articles are "A Tin-Plated Millionaire" by Garret Garrett, and "The Key to Nowhere," by Benjamin Ward. The regular departments are full of interesting reading matter, being maintained at their usual standard.

The January number of the Technical World magazine contains many interesting articles on the progress of science and invention and is profusely illustrated. "The Worker Who Drinks Must Go," by Gene and Willard Price, discusses the position the American business man takes toward "booze," and might well have been titled "What Industry Has to Say to Alcohol." The European war is given its share of attention in a number of special articles. "Clear for Action" is a story of the meeting of the belligerent navies. Halley Millard contributes an article titled "The Great Guns," which describes the havoc makers of Europe.

The improvements being made in the military equipment of the United States are also discussed. Marc N. Goodnow contributes "The Flying Wing of the Navy," which gives a description of the schools at which aviators are being turned out to man navy aircraft. "Towers to Increase Cannon's Efficiency," by Monroe Woolley tells of the concrete structures being built at our coast fortifications.

Dr. H. S. Willsons continues his discussion of our twelve greatest scientists with a story of Jacques Loeb, one of the greatest experimental biologists.

There are numerous other special articles in this number, all dealing with the progress of the world in science and invention.

Numerous short stories, installments of serials and special articles are contained in the January number of the Wide World magazine.

Among the short stories in this issue are "A Railway Race with Robbers," by Walter G. Patterson, "A Christmas Crime," by Katherine Susanann Prichard, and "Capit and the Wireless" by Sidney Leire. "Tight Corners," a thrilling serial by E. Torday, is begun in this issue, which also contains the second installment of "The Mutiny of Ziba" and "Our Travels in Safari-Land."

"The Land of the North Wind" is the title of a special article by P. H. Godsell, and is illustrated by Leslie Hunter. "The Great Cook Problem" is discussed by Edith I. Comstock, and will be of interest to every housewife. "A Dead Man's Diary," taken from the notebook of Dmitri Garkin, forms an interesting piece of literature, while two short stories round out the number. They are "Smut," by K. King, and "The Tree Spirit," by C. E. G. Tisdall.

Two very remarkable contributions about the war appear in the January American Magazine. One, by Ray Stannard Baker, is entitled "The Last Phase of the Great War." It is a fiction story of the German invasion of America in 1915-1916 and is a sort of imaginary history of the war supposed to be written one hundred years hence. The other contributions on the war is entitled "Hats Off to France!" It is by Will Irwin, special correspondent of the American Magazine, and it reports the courage and coolness with which the French are taking part in this war.

In the same issue Ida M. Tarbell continues her new series of articles entitled "The Golden Rule in Business." Cleveland Moffett writes a wonderful account of the new invention by which moving pictures are now taken under the sea. Stewart Edward White, writing under the title "A Lion Adventure," gives an account of his personal experiences with wild animals in Africa. A husband, who has been married twenty-five years, gives a highly entertaining and suggestive account of his experience with the problems of matrimony.

Peterson is contributed by David Grayson, author of "Adventure in Contentment," in the way of a new novel entitled "Hempfield," and there are other stories by John A. Moroso, Mollie Best and Maravene Thompson. James Montgomery Flagg, the well known artist, presents "Four Easy New Year's Resolutions," and the "Interesting People" department completes a lively and beautiful issue.

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